

OUR EARLY PAINTERS.

Benjamin West Started His Career as an Infant Prodigy.

Naturally the early painters in colonial times were immigrants. They were for the most part men whose names have long since perished and were probably of little account even in their own day. We picture these men with their paint boxes and rolls of canvas packed upon their knapsacks, trudging up hill and down dale, begging an occasional ride, putting up at road inns and painting a new sign to settle the landlord's score. As late, by the way, as 1788 Matthew Pratt, a resident painter of Philadelphia, found signboards as profitable a subject as portraits.

Benjamin West may be reckoned the earliest of native born American painters, for, although his birth occurred in 1738, a year after that of John Singleton Copley, his rise to notice preceded the latter's. West, in fact, began by being an infant prodigy and never quite got over it. It was a remarkable fact in itself that an artist should be born of a Quaker family in a little Pennsylvania settlement, amid the rigors of frontier life, and that without any known encouragement from his family and surroundings the child at six years old should have unmistakably shown artistic tendencies. The story is that while left in charge of a baby sister he tried to make a portrait of her in red and black ink. Then the following year some Indians showed him how to make red and yellow colors, while his mother allowed him to dip into her indigo tub and even made a brush for him from the fur of the cat. With these rude materials he executed some colored drawings that attracted the attention of a Mr. Pennington of Philadelphia, who presented him with a real box of paints and some engravings after Italian pictures. He made such rapid progress that before he was twelve years old he was practicing as a professional portrait painter in Philadelphia. By the time he was twenty-two he had saved enough money to visit Rome, whither his fame had preceded him. Three years later he reached London and was received with an enthusiasm that at once launched him into a success which only grew greater as the years went by. Finally he was elected president of the Royal academy and held this position until his death, when a great public funeral was given to his remains in St. Paul's cathedral.—Circle Magazine.

Falsifying an Old Proverb.

The adage "Happy is the bride that the sun shines on" is one that is unknown in many lands. A Breton bride likes to have a wet wedding and takes it unhappily when the day of her wedding dawns bright and sunny. Rain on her marriage morn is held to signify that all her tears are shed and that she will therefore have a happy married life. It is said that the Erza of Simbrisk call the day before the wedding the weeping day, and the bride and her girl friends weep as much as possible, with the idea of getting the mourning of life over, so that only what is joyful may remain. In some countries this result is expected by sousing the bride with water. The Greeks think that a thorough drenching of the bride will bring her lasting good fortune.

The Quiet Way.

As the mother tossed aside her gloves the daughter looked up from her novel with a yawn.

"By the way, ma," she said, "have you found out yet what pa cut out of the paper?"

The mother sneered. "Yes, bother it," she answered. "I bought another copy downtown and read the thing all through from start to finish. But for the life of me I can't see anything wrong with it. It's just an article on the healthy exercise housework gives."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Why Paperhangers.

Wall paper does not hang, and yet the person whose business it is to paste it up is called a paperhanger. The reason is simple. Long before the introduction of wall papers Arras, a town in France, was famous for its tapestries, called "Arras." These were used as wall coverings, and the men who were employed to put them up were called "hangers." When paper succeeded tapestries as a mural decoration the name "hangers" stuck to the men, though instead of being tapestry hangers they were now paperhangers.

A Use For Brains.

John Bright used to tell how a barber who was cutting his hair once said to him: "You've a large head, sir. It is a good thing to have a large head, for a large head means a large brain, and a large brain is the most useful thing a man can have, as it nourishes the roots of the hair."

SUNKEN SHIPS.

Wooden Wrecks Sometimes Rise to the Surface.

When a ship disappears beneath the waters it is by no means certain that it will never be seen again. It may rise after a few days or even a few hours and continue afloat for months, a constant menace to navigation. This, of course, applies only to wooden ships. When an iron ship goes down it stays down.

Some years ago a coal laden schooner collided with an unknown vessel in a thick fog at night a hundred miles from Cape Hatteras. The unknown continued on her way and was swallowed up in the fog, but the schooner, with a great hole torn in her bows, began to settle, and her crew was launching the boats when seen and rescued by a passing southern liner. The abandoned ship was then two-thirds full of water and bows under. In less than ten minutes after the crew had been taken off the schooner's stern rose in the air, and she made her final plunge. As she went down the deck blew up with a noise like thunder. Two months later she was sighted floating bottom up below Cape Hatteras, drifting south in the trend of the gulf stream. The explanation of her resurrection was a simple one. Her cargo had shifted forward when the bow tilted down with the inrush of the water and the rolling of a rough sea. As she went down the coal ran out through the great hole there before she reached the bottom, and, relieved of its weight, she rose again, turning turtle as she did so. A ship with a broken back is also likely to rise as soon as her cargo floats out or disintegrates under the action of the salt water.

A wreck in ballast or with a light cargo drifts with bows from the waves if there is no current worth mentioning, but in a strong, swift current the bow will face in the opposite direction to that in which the current is moving.

A ship bottom up will float with about an eighth of the depth of her hull out of water and in a heavy sea will lie lengthwise of the waves. When a ship has been down long enough to become thoroughly waterlogged and riddled by worms it never rises again from its ocean grave.—New York Press.

Balzac at Work.

The most extraordinary of all literary workmen was the French novelist Balzac. When engaged on a novel he retired from all contact with the world and saw no one but his printer. He began his daily task at 2 o'clock in the morning, his desk brilliantly lighted with candles. Clad in a black robe, he sat down and worked away, drinking great cups of black coffee as a stimulant. No matter how much daylight there was on the outside, none of it was permitted to enter his room. When thoroughly exhausted he would retire for refreshment and sleep and the next morning at 2 o'clock would again seat himself at his desk. Thus for weeks and sometimes for months he would go on until his work was completed. Then he would retire to the country or take a journey for recuperation and rest.

His One Brother.

One of the most curious instances of longevity is found in Miss Louisa Courtenay's "Notes of an Octogenarian." A witness in a will case in which Bellenden-Ker, the great English conveyancer, was engaged, was asked if he had any brothers or sisters. He replied that he had had one brother who died 150 years ago. The court expressed incredulity, and documentary evidence was produced in support of the statement. This showed that the witness' father, who married first at the age of nineteen, had a son who died in infancy. The father married again at the age of seventy-five and had a son who lived to appear in the witness box at the age of ninety-four and made the above startling statement.

His Part.

"Oh, ye-es," remarked Ketchley in a self satisfied way, "Lulu and I will start out in married life under very favorable circumstances. Her mother gives us a neat little home, her father furnishes it, and her uncle De Long has given a carriage and pair. Besides, Lulu has a snug income in her own name."

"What part do you furnish?" "Well, principally the name—principally the name."—London Answers.

Utilizing an Accomplishment.

"I'll be kind o' glad when Josh gets home from school," said Farmer Cornfossel. "I have an idea he can be right useful."

"Are you going to put him to work?"

"Maybe. I've exhausted all the language I know on that team of mules. But I haven't given up hope. I want to see whether Josh can't startle 'em some with his college yell."—Washington Star.

LOW RATE EXCURSION

Fares to British Columbia, Oregon, California and Washington.

The Illinois Central Railroad will sell round-trip tickets at the following rates to the following points:

New Westminster, Vancouver and Victoria, British Columbia at \$67.75. Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco, California at \$62.50.

Bellingham, Everett and Seattle, Washington, at \$67.75. Tickets on sale April 4th to Sept. 30th, 1910.

For further information call on, write or phone Agent Illinois Central. Cumb. 45-2.

Homeseekers'

Excursion fares to points in Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, Utah, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mexico, New Mexico, Wyoming. The Illinois Central will sell round trip homeseekers excursion tickets to points in the above named states every first and 3rd Tuesday at very reasonably reduced rates. For further information call on, write or phone ticket agent Illinois Central. Cumb. 45-2.

T. L. Morrow, Agent.

Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

New Orleans, La., April 12-13, 1910.

The Illinois Central Railroad Company will sell round-trip excursion tickets account the above occasion to New Orleans, La., at the rate of \$18.00 for the round trip.

Dates of sale: April 8, 9, 10 and 11, 1910.

Return limit. Tickets limited to reach original starting point not later than April 25th, 1910. Extension of ticket can be secured on payment of fee of \$1. For further information regarding stop-overs, etc. Call on, write or phone ticket agent Illinois Central. Cumb. 45-2.

T. L. Morrow, Agt.

Annual Continental Congress

Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, D. C., April 16-23, 1910.

The Illinois Central will sell round-trip tickets to Washington, D. C., account the above occasion at the rate of \$29.05 for the round trip.

Dates of Sale—April 13th, 14th and 15th.

Return Limit—Tickets good returning to reach original starting point not later than midnight of May 2nd, 1910.

For further information call on, write or phone ticket agent Illinois Central. Cumb. 45-2.

T. L. MORROW, Agent.

Round-Trip Excursion Fares

To Mobile, Alabama, account annual reunion United Confederate Veterans Mobile Ala., April 26-28, 1910. The Illinois Central will sell round-trip tickets to Mobile, Ala., account the above occasion at the rate of \$11.40 for the round-trip.

Dates of sale, April 23, 24 and 25, 1910. Return limit. Tickets good returning to reach original starting point not later than May 2nd, unless extension of limit is obtained by payment of 50cts. which will extend limit to May 19th.

T. L. MORROW, Agent.

Grand Army of Republic

Department of Kentucky, Central City, Ky. May 18-20. The Illinois Central will sell round-trip tickets to Central City, Ky., account the above occasion at the reduced rate of \$2.00 for the round trip. Dates of Sale, May 16th, 17th, and 6 a. m. 18th. Return limit. Tickets good returning to reach original starting point not later than midnight of May 22nd, 1910. For further information call on, write, or phone ticket agent Illinois Central. Cumb. 45-2.

T. L. Morrow, Agent.

National Sunday School

Congress (colored) Atlanta, Ga., May 25-30, 1910. The Illinois Central railroad will sell round-trip tickets to Atlanta, Ga., account the above occasion at the rate of \$12.85 for the round trip. Dates of sale, May 23, 24, 1910. Return limit. Tickets good returning to reach original starting point not later than midnight of June 1st, 1910. For further information call on or phone ticket agent. T. L. Morrow, Agent.

National Association

of Piano Dealers of America, Richmond, Va., May 13-18, 1910. The Illinois Central Railroads will sell round trip tickets to Richmond, Va., account the above occasion at the rate of \$30.05 for the round trip. Dates of Sale, May 11th and 12th, 1910. Return limit. Tickets good returning to reach original starting point not later than midnight of May 29th, 1910. For further information call on or phone ticket agent. Phone 45-2 T. L. Morrow, Agent.

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\$62.50 ROUND TRIP...

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JNO. C. HOOE,
Agent L. & N.

L. & N.

TIME TABLE.

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

No. 52—St. Louis Express, 9:55 a. m.
No. 54—St. L. Fast Mail, 10:23 p. m.
No. 92—C. & St. L. Lim., 5:25 a. m.
No. 56—Hopkinsville Ac. 8:55 p. m.
No. 94—Dixie Flyer, 5:54 p. m.

TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

No. 51—St. L. Express 5:35 p. m.
No. 53—St. L. Fast Mail 5:33 a. m.
No. 93—C. & N. O. Lim. 11:50 p. m.
No. 55—Hopkinsville Ac. 7:05 a. m.
No. 95—Dixie Flyer, 9:32 a. m.

No. 52 and 54 connect at St. Louis and other points west.
No. 51 connects at Guthrie for Memphis line points as far south as Erin and for Louisville, Cincinnati and the East.

No. 53 and 55 make direct connection at Guthrie for Louisville, Cincinnati and all points north and east thereof. No. 53 and 55 also connect for Memphis and way points.

No. 92 runs through to Chicago and will not carry passengers to point South of Evansville. Also carries through sleepers to St. Louis.

No. 93 through sleepers to Atlanta, Jackson, Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Tampa, Fla. Also Pullman sleepers to New Orleans. Connects at Guthrie for points East and West. No. 93 will not carry local passengers for points North of Nashville Tenn.

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\$1.50 Between Lexington, Danville, Georgetown and Louisville for round trip tickets, limited to return date of sale. Proportionately low rates between intermediate points.

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White Corn.....	2.00	Rock & Rye.....	2.25
Updyke.....	2.50	Peerless AAA Tennessee Whiskey.....	2.00
Colonial Club.....	3.00	Peerless AA Tennessee Whiskey.....	2.50
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					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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